



School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure, and Recreation www.solaroutdoors.org

Fall 'Spring' Reunion

by Mike Banks

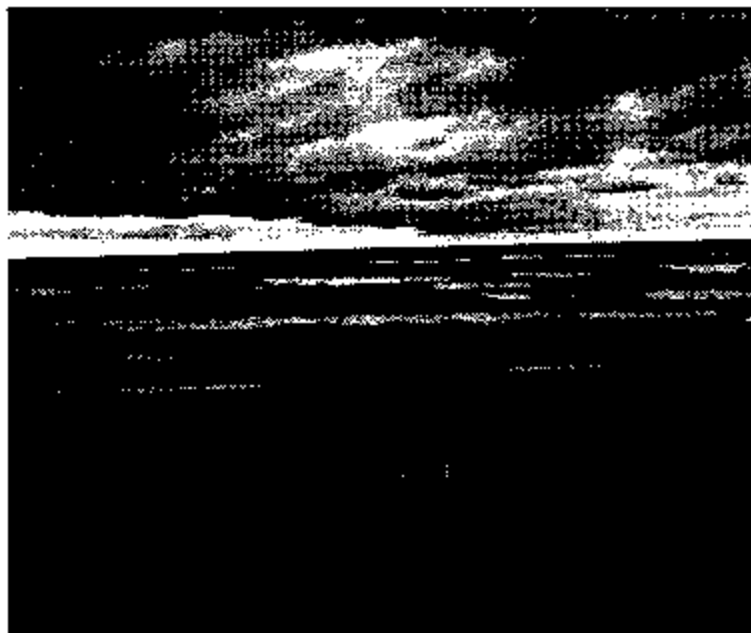


Dennis, Elizabeth, Dave, Mike at Mythic Nordhouse Lake



Nordhouse Camp

On Saturday, November 6th, 4 instructors and 1 graduate from the Spring 2004 Backpacking course met at the Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness trailhead. It had been suggested that more people would have been there if the weather forecast had not included the word "snow." Well, as any 2-year old Michigarian knows, weather is an unreliable thing. The weekend was sunny and warm (for November). It was wonderful to see ... a perfect heavenly ceiling that defined 'sky-blue'; the autumn colors blowing across the forest floor, Nordhouse Lake filled to the edge of its sandy beach; a deer that had been staring down at our campsite suddenly bounding along



Windy Beach

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Fall 'Spring' Reunion (cont'd)

the ridge above us; the 'gales of November' living up to reputation as the waves wiped clean the entire beach and a few friends wandering along the ridge that looked over it all. There was of course the night's entertainment as the stars danced, Jupiter and Mars lit up the eastern sky and the comedy team of Phillips & Lamb livened up the campfire for Dave Sweeton, Elizabeth Schwab and me. It was a great way to spend a couple of days of exploring and talking of past and future adventures. We are all looking forward to getting snowshoes and skis on again and heading down the trail. However, we will put that off until after deer hunting season. Meanwhile, there was one disappointment: Pete was so hoping that I would lead the group in a swim. Good News Pete: I will be glad to lead you into the nice cool waters of the Great Lakes. You just have to join me in...

Dipps for Toys

Sunday, December 5th, a great Detroit charity tradition continues as the 14th annual Dipps for Toys takes place on Belle Isle. Join TEAM SOLAR as we and several hundred of your new best friends gather at Honest John's Bar & No Grill at 488 Seldon Avenue in Detroit (right behind *The Max*). The festivities start at 12 Noon and continue beyond the actual 'Dipp' as several hundred costumed characters take the plunge into the Detroit River to raise money to buy toys for some of the poorest kids in Detroit. This is one of the most successful of grassroots charities. The "overhead" of Honest John's Shakedown Society (IRS Tax ID #38-301-7326) is absorbed by John. The pledges, cover, bar proceeds, tips, transportation, food, entertainment and any loose changes picked up from the floor goes into buying toys for the kids. The toys are bought at wholesale from Toy-R-U's, wrapped by U of M Greeks and Honest John's patrons, and then delivered by the Detroit Police. Over \$80,000 was raised last year. Come join us in one of the greatest fun ways to start the Holiday Spirit.

All donations over \$10.00 are tax deductible. Please make your checks payable to Honest John's Shakedown Society and send to me at PO Box 51406 Livonia, MI 48151-5406. Include the tax ID # in your memo. Call me at 734 398-5315 or 313 832-JOHN for further information. Thanks for your support.

EnjoyING Michigan Winters BACKPACKING CLASS

by Tom Oloffo

Winter backpacking skill is not just for the winter, it is a useful back-up for those unexpected cold days in early spring and late fall. In this class we'll teach you how to keep warm and your energy level up when skiing or snow shoeing in the winter and how to build a snow shelter just in case something does go HORRIBLY WRONG on that simple three hour ski trip. You can also use these skills in the summer in the Rockies, the Cascades, or Alaska, areas where you can expect snow any time of the year.

This class will teach you the "ins and outs" of winter camping in Michigan. The first classes will be held on 12-9 and 12 - 16. All other classes and practicals will be held in January and the beginning of February. The cost is \$ 85.00 for new students and a reduced fee for past graduates who want to retake the course. Pick up details at the monthly meeting.

This course is open to the graduates of the Backpacking Course. This course is the prerequisite for the Winter Survival Course & Mountaineering classes. For safety reasons, the Wilderness First Aid Course is highly recommended for both of these courses. With the recent warm winters keep your fingers crossed & pray for snow. To sign up or if you have any questions contact -- TOM OLOFFO, (313)-386-0057 or memountainman@yahoo.com.



Dog-Sledding

by Karen Bates

WANTED: Adventure minded individuals who are looking for a new challenge to share with their family, friends and co-workers; who already think you're crazy because you call the Off the Beaten Path Travels "FUN"! Come dog sledding this February 11-13, 2005 in the Algonquin Provincial Park, Ontario area. You will get to work with a team of dogs while sledding through beautiful snow covered, wooded landscape. Spend a night in the bush in a heated trapper tent. All-inclusive from Friday dinner through Sunday Lunch. Not to mention the trip stories you come back with will raise you to a new level of "crazy" among your family, friends and co-workers. For questions or details contact Karen Bates at lady_musher@yahoo.com or see her at the next SOLAR meeting.



Carolling at Botsford

By Margaret Martin



Bring joy to the residents of Botsford Continued Care by carolling through the halls. Wear Christmas attire, and meet in the front lobby at 2:30 PM on Sunday, December 12, 2004. We'll sing for about an hour then head over to Harry & Mary Price's for a pot luck dinner. Music provided.

When: Sunday, December 12, 2004. Time: Singing from 2:30-4:00 PM

Where: Botsford Continued Care, 21450 Archwood Circle, Farmington Hills, MI, 48336h.

Cost: Free, bring a dish to pass. For more information call Margaret at 734-721-2821 or e-mail at mpluscat@hotmail.com

SOLAR Tip: by Karl Overhuel I've found that if you put your Nalgene lid leashes on upside down, your lid will fall against your bottle and not your face.

SOLAR Tip: on Bug Attacks by Debbie Zuchlewski Do not use bug repellent in or around your tent. It will break down the waterproofing qualities of the fabric. If your tent has been invaded by bugs, cut 6 inches of duct tape and 6 inches of string. Fold the duct tape over the center of the string about 1 inch from one end so that 5 inches of sticky tape is free. Sprinkle a little sugar on the sticky tape and hang the strip in your tent to catch those pesky mosquitoes or flies.

SOLAR Tip: An Emergency Compass by Debbie Zuchlewski. To use your analog watch as a compass, lay it on a flat surface. Hold a matchstick on the watch's center to create a shadow that you can use to line up the hour hand so that the hour hand is pointing toward the sun and making a straight line across the watch with the shadow. The point on the watch that is halfway between the hour hand and twelve o'clock (one o'clock during daylight saving time) will be south.

CAVING OR HIKING IN KENTUCKY

ALL LEVELS, NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!!!

KID FRIENDLY, NO PETS

January 28 - 30, 2005

by Penni Lopez



It's that time of year again - time for the 24th annual Carter Caves Crawl-a-thon. What is a crawl-a-thon you might ask - - this is an annual event put on by Carter Caves State Park in Olive Hill, Kentucky. It is a great way for people to get acquainted with caving a wide variety of cave tours are offered, ranging from walking tours, a little bit of crawling, a lot of crawling and vertical caving. There are even trips for kids and seniors!!

If you do not like the underground, join us anyway, as there is some great hiking in the area.

The basic plan is to drive down to the park on Friday, about a 7-hour drive. Rooms are available right at the Carter Caves Lodge, as well as at Carroll's Inn, about 15 miles (around the bend). The cost for 2 nights lodging is \$50 per adult and \$30 per child 16 and under, payable to SOLAR. Since this trip will fill up, only payments in full will be accepted to hold your spot.

You will need to download the crawl-a-thon entry and release forms yourself from www.crawlathon.com, or call the park at (606) 286-4411. Generally the forms are not available until mid December. If you go to the site before the forms are available, you can sign up to receive notification the very day they are available. You will

then need to send in both forms yourself with a check for \$30 (last year's fee, the current fee could be higher) to Carter Caves. Your \$30 includes 2 days of guided caving and a T-shirt from the event. Please DO NOT delay as the trips fill up quickly.

See me at the meeting for a listing of equipment you may need. SOLAR has helmets, knee and elbow pads (limited) and headlamps (limited) that you may borrow. A refundable deposit is required. I do not have enough equipment for everyone, so you will need to reserve in advance. To be fair, those who have not been on SOLAR caving trips previously will get first dibs on pads and headlamps.

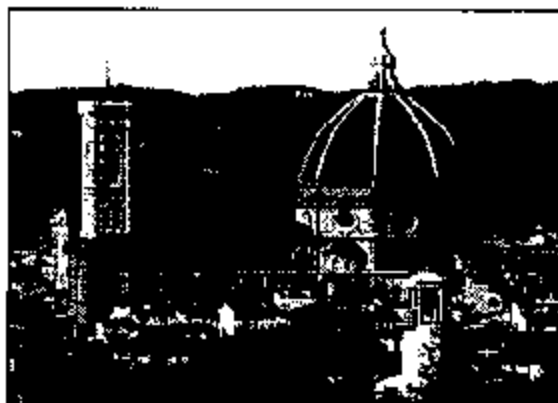
Need more info? Contact Penni Lopez at (248) 336-2911 or email me - kavekrawler@yahoo.com



© Dave Bunnell

Travel to Tuscany in Early Summer 2005

by Pete Lamb



Imagine waking up to the dueling rooster calls echoing across the rolling terraced hills of Tuscany and hearing the old tractors on the hillside farms working the land. Join me and other SOLARites on this trip where we will be staying in four separate apartments in a refurbished villa. We will be surrounded with views across vineyards and olive groves while we luxuriate around our private swimming pool after an active day of biking, hiking, site seeing or whatever. You will have opportunities to visit the exquisite basilicas of Florence and Pisa, and Sienna. It is also close to San Gimignano, a charming walled medieval town recently renovated to its 13th century glory where you can wander around cobbled narrow streets

filled with fabulous Tuscan shops and restaurants. You might also even want to attend an opera in the famous open-air ancient Roman amphitheater in Verona - a dramatic and musical spectacle you would never see anywhere else.

When? Saturday 18th of June to July 2nd. **Cost?** \$2000 + airfare. Contact Pete Lamb at 248-644-5831 or petekandur@yahoo.com

SOLAR DECEMBER 2004 CALENDAR

School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure & Recreation

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

7	TUE	GENERAL MEETING	COLONY HALL	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
7	TUE	Program: SOLAR Holiday Party- Theme: Holidays Around the World**		Linda Rodrick	lindamra@aol.com
4	SAT	Greenfield Village Holiday Nights	Dearborn	Karen Bates	lady_musher@yahoo.com
5	SUN	Weekly Hike	Holly State Rec. Area	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
11	SAT	Annual Toledo Zoo Lights Tour**	Toledo, OH	Sandy Tutro	sandra.tutro@raymondjames.com
11	SAT	Weekly Hike	Stony Creek Metropark	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
12	SUN	Annual Christmas Caroling & Pot Luck Dinner**	Botetford	Margaret Martin	mplusca@hotmail.com
19	SUN	Weekly Hike	Continued Care Independence Oaks County Park	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
26	SUN	Weekly Hike	Indian Springs Metropark	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com

DECEMBER CLASSES

15	WED	SOLAR Basic Mountaineering & Safety Class	Moosejaw-Birmingham	Lou Szakal	everest2006@aol.com
9, 16	THUR	SOLAR Winter Backpacking Class	EMS Farmington Hills	Tom Oloffo	memourtainman@yahoo.com

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

4	TUE	GENERAL MEETING	COLONY HALL	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
4	TUE	Program: West Coast Trail - Vancouver Island by: The West Coast Trail Participants**		Linda Rodrick	lindamra@aol.com
2	SUN	Weekly Hike	Seven Ponds Nature Center	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
8	SAT	Weekly Hike	Kensington Metropark	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
14-17	MULTI	Wilderness State Park "Ski-n"	Straits Region (Mackinaw City area)	Mika Banks	Slywolfe52@yahoo.com
14-17	MULTI	Ice Climbing	Mad Moose Lodge	Pete Lamb	petekandu@yahoo.com
15-23	WEEK	Winter Ski/Outing trip**	British Columbia, Canada	Chip Kleinbrook	mrchip1234@aol.com
16	SUN	Weekly Hike	Lyon Oaks County Park	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
22	SAT	Weekly Hike	Orion Oaks County Park	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
28-Feb. 7	WEEK	Cross Country Skiing**	Seefeld, Austria	Leslie Cordova	lesliegene@aol.com
28-30	WKND	Annual Carter Caves Crawlathon	Kentucky	Penny Lopez	kavekrawler@yahoo.com
30	SUN	Weekly Hike	Ortonville State Rec Area	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com

JANUARY CLASSES

5, 12, 19, 26	WED	SOLAR Basic Mountaineering & Safety Class	Moosejaw-Birmingham	Lou Szakal	everest2006@aol.com
6, 13, 20, 27	THUR	SOLAR Winter Backpacking - Class	EMS Farmington Hills	Tom Oloffo	mcmountainman@yahoo.com
8	SAT	Ski Day & Training	X-Entry Hdqtrs Roscommon	Larry Mergentne	..larrymergentime@yahoo.com
22-23	WKND	SOLAR Winter Backpacking - Practical #1	Waterloo	Tom Oloffo	mcmountainman@yahoo.com
29-30	WKND	SOLAR Basic Mountaineering & Safety Class - Practical #1	Island Lake	Lou Szakal	everest2006@aol.com

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

1	TJE	GENERAL MEETING	COLONY HALL	Tom Hayes	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
1	TJE	<i>Program: TBD</i>		Linda Rodrick	lindamra@aol.com
5	SAT	Weekly Hike	Maybury State Park	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
11-13	WKND	Dog Sledding	Algonquin Prov. Park, Ontario	Karen Bates	ady_musher@yahoo.com
13	SUN	Weekly Hike	Proud Lake State Rec Area	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
19	SAT	Weekly Hike	Seven Lakes State Park	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com
27	SUN	Weekly Hike	Brighton State Rec Area	Need a Hike Leader	thomashayes@wideopenwest.com

FEBRUARY CLASSES

4-6	WKND	SOLAR Winter Backpacking Practical #2	Pigeon River	Tom Oloffo	mcmountainman@yahoo.com
9	WED	SOLAR Basic Mountaineering & Safety Class	Moosejaw-Birmingham	Lou Szakal	everest2006@aol.com
11-13	WKND	SOLAR Basic Mountaineering & Safety Class - Practical #2	Nordhouse Dunes	Lou Szakal	everest2006@aol.com

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/CLASSES

Mar-April	MULTI	Rock Climbing Class Signup in Dec	Moosejaw-Birmingham	Pete Lamb	petekandu@yahoo.com
Jun. 18 - Jul. 2	MULTI	Tuscany - Multi activity, Hiking, Biking, Wine Tasting	Italy	Pete Lamb	petekandu@yahoo.com

Articles due Dec. 10th for the January RAY. Please send to Pete Lamb at petekandu@yahoo.com

FOR INFORMATION ON JOINING THE SOLAR CLUB, CONTACT PENNI LOPEZ (248) 477-7547 OR VISIT WWW.SOLAROUTDOORS.ORG

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP PLAN AND/OR LEAD A SOLAR ACTIVITY, CONTACT
 PAM RIEHL SZAKAL AT (248) 685-0367 OR SEND EMAIL TO solaractivities@netscape.net
**SOLAR HAS A NO-REFUND POLICY. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND AN ACTIVITY YOU MAY
 "SELL YOUR SPOT" TO ANOTHER CLUB MEMBER**

**** DENOTES NON-SOLAR ACTIVITY (Solar will not be held responsible for these activities)**



SOLAR Program Schedule
From the SOLAR Program Director

Linda Rodrick



DECEMBER PROGRAM

Holidays around the World

What: A GREAT time at SOLAR's Annual Holiday Party

When: Tuesday, December 7th just after our meeting
concludes
(8:30 to ?)

Where: Colony Hall (our usual meeting location)

Tuesday, December 7th 8:30 to ?

Please join us in celebrating and encouraging SOLAR's diversity.
Consider bringing a favorite ethnic dish as your dish to pass
(side dish, salad or dessert) and an adult beverage if you'd like.
SOLAR will provide soft drinks, sandwiches and paper products.

Feel free to wear your ethnic (or holiday) clothing. Just remember
your dancing shoes as we'll have a D.J., dancing and lots of
holiday spirit!
Children Welcome

UPCOMING PROGRAM

January: The "West Coast Trail" presentation
by fellow SOLARites

*Please note: All programs take place at Colony Hall immediately following
the SOLAR business meeting.*



HIKE LEADERS NEEDED

All hikes are loosely organized. To lead, all you need to do is start the hike on time at 9:30 a.m. Have a map and pick a trail. Most of the Oakland parks and state areas have a map at the trailhead. You can also find them on line, or contact me and I'll get one to you. Try to have a distance of 5 to 8 miles. Everyone participating is independent and responsible for themselves. As leader you're more of a focal point. If any questions come up, answer as best you can. You are not expected to have all the answers. You are expected to have as many hikers at the end as you did when you started (You notice I said as many not necessarily the same ones).



Hiking Schedule: December – May

Anyone wishing to volunteer to be hiking leader, please let me know what week you are available so we can update the information. All hikes are at 9:30 a.m.

Reggie Hayes [e-mail-thomashayes@w.deopenwest.com](mailto:reggie-thomashayes@w.deopenwest.com)

Sun. Dec. 5th Holly State Recreation Area Hike leader: *Needed*

Main Entrance: Exit I-75 at Grange Hall Rd. (east of Holly), then east 2.5 miles to the recreation area entrance, follow the signs for Wildwood lake parking. Hiking Trail Difficulty: *Easy to difficult.*

Sat. Dec. 11th Stony Creek Metropark. Hike leader: *Needed*

North of Utica off of Van Dyke expressway (M-53). From M-53 take 26 Mile Rd. west 1.5 miles to park entrance. Follow the signs to West Branch picnic area. Hiking Trail Difficulty: *Easy to Difficult.*

Sun. Dec. 19th Independence Oaks County Park. Hike leader: *Needed*

North of Pontiac off I-75 at Sashabaw Rd. exit 89, then north 2.5 miles to the park entrance. Follow the signs to the Nature Center parking. Hiking Trail Difficulty: *Easy to moderate*

Sun. Dec. 26th Indian Springs Metropark. Hike leader: *Needed*

Just north of Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area and south of Clarkston on White Lake Rd. between Cuthbert and Teggerdine Rds. Follow the signs to the nature center parking. Hiking Trail Difficulty: *Easy to moderate.*

Sun Jan. 2nd Seven Ponds Nature Center Hike leader: *Needed*

I-59 to M-24 to Dryden Rd., then east 7 miles to Calkins Rd. then 1 mile south to the nature center. Hiking Trail Difficulty: *Easy*

Sat. Jan. 3th Kensington Metropark Hike leader: *Needed*

Exit I-96 at Kent Rd, exit 151. Meet in the first right hand side parking lot past the golf course. Hiking Trail Difficulty: *Easy to moderate.*

Sun. Jan. 16th Lyon Oaks County Park Hike leader: *Needed*

Entrance on Pontiac Trail, just east of Old Plank Rd. Park is bordered by I-96 on the south, Old Plank Rd. on the west, Pontiac Trail on the north. Hiking Trail Difficulty: *Easy to moderate.*

Sat. Jan. 22nd Orion Oaks County Park Hike leader: *Needed*

I-75 to Baldwin Rd., north about 3.5 miles to the park entrance. Trail head parking at Baldwin Rd. Hiking Trail Difficulty: *Easy*

Sun. Jan. 30th Ortonville State Recreation Area. Hike leader: *Needed*

Between Flint and Pontiac, 2 miles north of Ortonville and east of M-15, just east of Sands Rd. on State Park Rd. Follow the main road to the parking lot at the end. Hiking Trail Difficulty: *Moderate to Difficult.*

Hiking Schedule: December - May (cont'd)

Sat. Feb. 5th Maybury State Park. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sun. Feb 13th Proud Lake State Recreation Area. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sat. Feb. 19th Seven Lakes State Park. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sun. Feb 27th Brighton State Recreation Area. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sat. Mar. 5th Pinckney State Recreation Area Hike leader: *Needed*
Sun. Mar. 13th Island Lake State Recreation Area. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sat. Mar. 19th Heritage Park-Farmington Hills Hike leader: *Needed*
Sat. Mar. 26th Bald Mountain State Recreation Area Hike leader: *Needed*
Sun. Apr. 3rd. Highland State Recreation Area. Hike Leader: *Needed*
Sat. Apr. 9th. Stony Creek Metropark. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sun. Apr. 17th. Seven Ponds Nature Center. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sat. Apr. 23rd. Maybury State Park. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sun. May 1st. Brighton State Recreation Area. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sat. May 7th. Kensington Metropark. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sun. May 15th. Seven Lakes State Park. Hike leader: *Needed*
Sat. May 21st. Island Lake State Recreation Area. Hike leader: *Needed*

SOLAR Hiking Hints *by Pete Lamb*

Just a few comments I would like to make - partly because I have to fill space because of lack of articles (hint). I would like you to look at Reggie's list of weekend hikes from a slightly different perspective. The obvious ones are they keep you in contact with your SOLAR friends through the winter, and they also help keep you in shape through couch potato season. These are excellent reasons to get off your duff and get out. As in business, you make contacts doing activities together, you get to know who is cheerful in bad weather, who pulls their weight and other traits that trip leaders look for when putting together a team.

You can make the hike a navigation exercise and practice the skills you learned from navigation class. You can test your layering system for winter back packing or that big winter trip. Try carrying a pack and learn what your weight limit is and how to adjust your pack to fit you. You can break in a new pair of boots. You can use them to learn to lead trips where you can get over your fear of dealing with people in a safe environment. When I joined SOLAR I was scared to death to lead a trip. Now I take people to Europe. Making that first step is really hard, but it's great when you do. If you lead a hike you can shape it any way you want, send out an email on the solar web that this hike is a bird watching hike or a photography hike or, if you are into it, a sketching hike. If there is snow, make it a snowshoe or cross-country ski trip. You can learn to ski with a pack or test your latest bright idea in sled building. You can even just go sledding. So I urge you to make use of this hiking schedule and volunteer to be a hike leader for at least one of them.

Climbing Really Rocks *by Pete Lamb*

After an absence of several years Rock Climbing classes will resume

Where

Moosejaw on Woodward between 14 and 15 mile next to Borders Books.

When

Starting on Wednesday 30th of March for five consecutive Wednesdays until the 27th April. 30. 6:00 till 9:00. A final practical Friday 29th April until May 1st at either Mad Moose or West Virginia. There is also a one day practice at a local park

Cost

\$150. Signups to start at December meeting or e-mail Pete Lamb at petekandu@yahoo.com. Signups are invited to a local climbing wall prior to class starting

Ski Day & Training

by Larry Mergentime

Cross Country Ski Headquarters

9435 N. Cut Road

Roscommon MI 48653

www.cross-country-ski.com

January 8, 2005

- **Cost** is \$35 if you need to rent equipment. This covers rental, instruction, and trail pass
- **Cost** is \$25 if you do not need to rent equipment. This covers instruction and trail pass.
- If you rent equipment and decide to purchase skis you can apply \$14 of your rental cost toward your ski purchase.

This offer does not extend to those not renting equipment.

Certified instruction from Jim Bradley in three sessions:

- 10:00 AM - Beginning and Review Instruction
- 12:00 Noon - Intermediate Instruction
- 2:00 PM - Skate Skiing (Advanced) Instruction

Beginners and newcomers may attend all three sessions

We only have room for 30 students. These spots will be filled on a first-come-first-serve basis by paying a non-refundable \$20 deposit upon signup. This is the only way you can secure a spot.

For more info contact: Larry Mergentime at:
larrymergentime@yahoo.com

"Lights Before Christmas"

at the Toledo Zoo, Saturday, Dec. 11, 4:45 until 8:30 pm

by Sandy Tutro

Every holiday season the Zoo is transformed into a winter wonderland. The 'Lights Before Christmas' holiday display features over ONE MILLION twinkling and chasing lights, over 200 images of your favorite animals, strolling carolers, holiday treats, and over 130 zoo animals. This is the best light display in the area and it's kid friendly.

The Plan:

Meet at the zoo entrance (in front of the gift shop) at 4:45

Tour the zoo

Meet back at the gift shop at 8:30ish

Caravan to dinner at the Ground Round Restaurant (Take I-75 back North to the Alexis Road exit, turn left and go a few miles until you see the restaurant on your right)

Admission:

- Adults (12-59): \$8.00 Seniors (60+): \$6.00
- Children (2-11): \$6.00 Children under 2: Free
- Parking \$5.00

For more information call Sandy Tutro at 810-632-6603 or email at sandra.tutro@raymondjames.com

Ice Climbing Martin Luther King Weekend

by Peter Lamb

Meet at the Montreal River at the top of Lake Superior for a weekend of ice climbing on January 14th to 17th. Martin Luther King weekend.

No experience is necessary and equipment can be rented at the Mad Moose Lodge where we will also be staying in cabins or the lodge.

I strongly recommend this weekend to mountaineering class members.

Prices vary, a rustic, wood-heated cabin (you gotta be tough is \$15). A cabin that sleeps as many as you care to jam in is \$90 per cabin. You can wallow in the lap of luxury for \$60 per room (sleeps two) at the lodge. Meals are available or cook your own.

Signups at December meeting or contact Pete Lamb at 248 644 5831 or Petekandu@yahoo.com.

Basic Mountaineering Class

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to stand on the Summit of a Mountain?
Or to even know what it takes to get there?
Here is your chance to find out.

Starting in December 2004, through February 2005, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., I will be teaching the Basic Mountaineering and Safety Skills Class to 10 lucky students who are interested in devoting their time and energy to the sport of Mountaineering

COST \$130.00

Here's what you get:

Self Arrest
Fixed Lines
Roped Travel
Running Belays
Health/Fitness Issues
Basic Mountain Skills
Avalanche Issues
Ice Axe Use
Leadership
Navigation

Optional Mountain Trip
Technical Tool Usage
Mountain Safety
First Aid Issues
Crampon Use
Knots
Weather
Climbing Issues
Glacier Crossing
Z & C pulley system
Mountaineering Books

Clothing
Gear issues
Crevasse Rescue
Reading Material
Expedition Planning
Environmental Ethics
2 Weekend Practicals
Ascending Ropes
Ropes/Webbing
Alpine Rescue
Sled Skills

Top Notch Instruction from Top Notch Instructors

Prerequisites:

Mandatory

Basic Backpacking
Land Navigation
Winter Camping
Red Cross First Aid/ CPR
Certification
Belay card (Rock Gym)

Recommended

Wilderness First Aid
Rock Climbing
Intermediate Backpacking
Advanced Backpacking
Search and Rescue

Helpful Experience

XC Ski/Snowshoe
Ice Climbing
S.M.O.C. Experience

CLASS SCHEDULE

Location: Moosejaw, Birmingham, MI

Class 1	12/08/04	Wed.
Class 2	12/15/04	Wed.
Class 3	01/05/05	Wed.
Class 4	01/19/05	Wed.
Class 5	01/26/05	Wed.
Practical 1	01/29-30/05	Fri-Sat
Class 6	02/09/05	Wed.
Practical 2	02/11-13/05	Fri-Sun

Lou Szakal (248)-685-0367 Everest2006@aol.com

SOLAR is a non-profit Club with 400-plus members dedicated to the intelligent enjoyment of nature and outdoor pursuits.

Membership is only \$40 a year per person (\$55 per family) and includes discounts to a number of retail outfitters, access to club-owned equipment, a monthly newsletter, and a chance to meet hundreds of other like-minded adventurers drawn together by a common love of pristine lakes, breathtaking vistas, virgin forests and scenic shorelines and the experiences to be found there.

Solar Steering Committee

President	Tom Hayes	Equipment	Carol McCherie
Vice President	Lou Szakal	Historian	Charles Hailey
Secretary	Cindy Taylor	Membership	Penni Lopez
Treasurer	Reggie Hayes	Programs	Linda Kodrick
Activities	Pam Rich Szakal	Pub. Relations	Mary Price
By-Laws	Gloria Fontaine	Solar Ray	Pete Lamb
Education	Mike Banks	Webmaster	Karl Overheul
At Large:	Mike Banks • Moe DeFrance • Al Fylak • Steve Gardner • Bill Halvingis • Cindy Harrison-Felix • Doug Lanyk • Larry Martin • Joan Hettinger • Leslie Cordova • Joan & Bob Westbrook • Tom Oloffo		

SOLAR Steering Committee Meetings –The Steering Committee meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. These meetings are usually open to the general membership. Anyone who is interested in learning what topics are discussed, the decisions being made, or contemplating running for a position on the Steering Committee, is welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending the Steering Committee Meeting, contact Tom Hayes at (586) 779-3589 or thomashayes@wideopenwest.com.

SOLAR MEETINGS

Are held the first Tuesday of every month in Southfield at the Colony Hall, 21780 Evergreen (between 8 & 9 Mile Roads) at 7:30 p.m. Visitors can come in for free.

SOLAR RAY is a monthly publication of SOLAR and is sent free to current dues-paid members. If you change your address please tell the membership chairperson, Penni Lopez at kasekrawler@yahoo.com

Submission Guidelines:

(Submissions are due on the Friday two weeks prior to the monthly Steering Committee Meeting (December 10 for January issue). Electronic files accessible to Word are required.) Pete Lamb, 409 E. Southlawn, Birmingham, MI 48009 Or call 248-644-5831 E-mail: Petekandu@yahoo.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.SOLAROUTDOORS.ORG



S.O.L.A.R.
P.O. Box 2438
Southfield, MI 48037